

5. COCKROACH IN HUMAN CULTURE

Literature

This next section will show how the cockroach has moved from the kitchen floor to our daily lives. The cockroach has been depicted in various areas through different mediums.

The Metamorphosis" by Franz Kafka. When Gregor Samsa awoke from a disturbing dream, he found himself changed in his bed into a monstrous insect with cockroach-like features. Never acknowledged in the story line as a cockroach, it was assumed so by the reader from the careful choice of words which described this vermin.



Book Cover Poster postcard from Kafka's Book. Glossy finish, divided back. Copy Righted 2009 by Tim Foley, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

He viewed himself ugly in his new appearance, and was treated as a vulgar pest and burden by his own family.

In 1934, Spain issued a set of stamps to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Lope de Vega, author.



A still life, said to have been taken from Lope de Vega's bookplate. It pictures a dead cockroach, flat on its back – symbolizing one of de Vega's critics.